

10th September 2021

Dear supporters

It's been a while since our last newsletter, but we haven't been idle.

On a local level in the UK, since the outbreak of coronavirus in February 2020, we have responded by **delivering £20,000 in financial aid to four local schools in Surrey**. This support has been specifically targeted to help those students most affected by the crisis. The funds have been used to purchase laptops for pupil premium students and interactive whiteboards for classrooms, among other things. Furthermore, we have formed a charitable partnership with one of our local state schools to deliver vital support to the students from low-income families who are struggling the most. We intend to continue and increase our support for local schools during these difficult times for students.

Since 2016, we have been supporting disadvantaged young people locally in Surrey. The focus has been on sponsoring specific individuals to undertake extracurricular activities, excursions, activities and/or training opportunities (for example DofE) that facilitate personal development. To date we have supported 350 young people through such interventions. Unfortunately, many of the programmes we supported have been disrupted by covid-19, however our aim is to restart this much needed support as soon as the covid-19 restrictions permit such group activities.

Regarding our work with **Fundación Educación para Todos (FEDUT)**, our partner charity in Colombia. Due to outbreak of covid-19 in March 2020 the country entered a six-month nationwide lockdown, during which time FEDUT was forced to suspend its' courses. Unfortunately, the pandemic has heavily impacted Colombian the economy, with many small and medium sized businesses being forced to close. However, thankfully, in October 2020, once the country reopened for business, we were able to restart our support for the tried and tested FEDUT accountancy training programme which we've been sponsoring since 2012. Now, a large portion of the educational programme course has been moved online, with many lessons being taught over Zoom.

However, despite the disruption caused by covid-19, and more recently civil unrest in Colombia, FEDUT has managed to adapt well to the adverse circumstances, and we have been able to continue working in alliance with them.

Unfortunately, the level of need in Colombia is now greater than ever, with many more people being pushed into poverty due to the pandemic.

Thanks to your support over the years, we have been able to train **650 underprivileged young people from the city of Cali as auxiliary accountants and a further 90 as marketing functionaries**. All graduates of the programme have received a government accredited technical training diploma and have been assisted in their efforts to find employment

Around half of the programme graduates have since been linked to vacancies in local companies and are now working in gainful employment. This has enabled them to improve living standards for them and their families.

The following is a case study of one of the students from the FEDUT accountancy programme, 'Jon':

"Jon was a student on the fourth FEDUT accounting training programme. At the time he was living with his family, made up of his mother and his younger sister. They are residents of the poor Buenaventura municipality on the Colombian Pacific coast. His mother was working informally as a cook in a local restaurant, working hard to cover the family's daily living expenses.

On hearing about the course, Jon made the decision to come to Cali (a 2-hour drive from Buenaventura) to live temporarily with his aunt, who supported him financially during the initial months of the course. Thanks to the FEDUT training programme Jon was able to re-establish his career aspirations and went on to be selected for a government sponsored training scheme. He is now working in gainful employment in a company in Cali."

Thanks to your support we have been able to make a difference to people's lives like Jon's.

As a charity, we have continued to operate according to a strict, highly streamlined business model. In the year 2020/21, **94% of all expenditure went on frontline services**, with just 6% on overheads.

On behalf of the charity trustees, I would like to thank you all for your generous support, from our regular standing order donors to the individual one-off donations, to the more substantial donations, it all makes a difference to people's lives!

Best wishes and kind regards to you all



Founder and Chief Executive Officer

PS Donations can be made by clicking on the following link [The Dan Eley Foundation - JustGiving](#)
